LESSON 25: EVERYONE

AND THAT'S THE LAST ONE...

IT'S BEEN A QUICK 3 MONTHS SINCE MIKI CAME BACK TO 765 PRO... ON A DAY CLOSE TO GRANDPA'S RELEASE DAY
THE BIGGEST INCIDENT HAP-PENED!!

THAT, NANO!
W-WHAT'S THE RUSH...

THERE'S A BIG PROBLEM!
PRO-DUCER-SAN!
WAA AH!?

!?
SHIJOU TAKANE (17) "THE ICE QUEEN" AN UNEX-PECTED RE-TIREMENT!

SHIJOU TAKANE, RETIREMENT PRESS CONFERENCE
961 PRO
BUT IN THE PAST THREE MONTHS TIME, YOU'VE BEEN REPEATEDLY BEATEN BY THOSE IDOLS AT 765 PRO... IT APPEARS THAT THIS IS THE LIMIT OF YOUR ABILITIES.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE LEFT FROM "PROJECT FAIRY..." I EXPECTED YOU TO BE A TOP IDOL, WHILE I WAS THE KING REIGNING OVER YOU.
THOSE WHO HAVE GUILTY CONSCIENCES ARE NOT QUALITIES OF THOSE WHO ARE KINGS!
OH MY, WHAT'S THIS? DON'T TELL YOU ALSO THINK THAT THIS WORLD IS ONE ONLY OF YOUR TRUE SKILL?
...WHAT WAS THAT?
IF YOU INTENDED TO FIGHT USING YOUR POWER, CAN YOU REALLY SAY YOU'VE BROUGHT US TO OUR HIGHEST POINT?
HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS...
STARTING FROM THE RECRUITING OF MIKI AND LEAVING THE OTHER INTERFERENCE ASIDE, WOULD 961 PRO HAVE WON, INSTEAD OF 765 PRO?

...I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY.
HMPH! FINE, LEAVE! THERE ARE COUNTLESS REPLACEMENTS FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU!
HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW THAT YOUR RETIREMENT HAS BEEN DECIDED?
...THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER ME.
N-NO WAY ...!
IF ONLY I HAD SAVED SHIJOU THAT TIME
THIS WOULDN'T HAVE—
MIKI...!?
I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL!

TAKANE CARRIED 961 PRO BY HERSELF, SHE CAN'T JUST DISAPPEAR LIKE THAT!
SHE REALLY HELPED MIKI OUT A LOT! SO NOW IT'S MIKI'S TURN TO SAVE HER!
...I FEEL THE SAME WAY! SHE'S STILL OUR FRIEND!
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE A FRIEND BEHIND!
...YEAH
WE ALL FEEL THE SAME.

THAT'S WHAT WE EXPECTED FROM YOU, YUUTAROU!
YEAH, YEAH! MY PRODUC-ER UNDER-STANDS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
SINCE THAT'S BEEN DECIDED, BEFORE WE GO ON THERE'S A LITTLE SOME-THING...
THAT I WANT TO GIVE TO YOU ALL!

TAKANE!
MIKI...
HIBIKI...
ALONG WITH...?
TAKANE, DO YOU HAVE A LITTLE TIME?
I SEE... WELL, MY SCHEDULE IS NO LONGER OUT OF MY CONTROL ANYMORE...
THERE'S SOME STUFF WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT!

...I DON'T THINK MY ACTIONS UP TO THIS DAY WERE DONE IN VAIN.
IT'S JUST... I CAN'T EASILY ERASE THIS EMPTINESS I FEEL WITHIN ME...
YEAH, I UNDER-STAND. I'M THE SAME WAY.
...YOU'RE STRONG, MIKI.
WELL, I HAD YOU TWO THERE WITH ME.
ALSO THE FEELINGS FROM EVERY-ONE AT 765 PRO...!
DID YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY AFTER YOU WERE FORCED INTO 961 PRO...?
YEAH, A LITTLE... AH, BUT MIKI DOESN'T USU-ALLY THINK ABOUT THOSE THINGS!

BUT LATELY, I'VE BEEN PUTTING FORTH MY BEST EFFORT NOT TO LOSE TO YOU ALL.
IT'S TRUE THAT AT FIRST I COULD FEEL THE DIFFERENCE...
...IS THAT THE SOURCE OF ALL OF YOUR ABILITIES?
I-IT ISN'T! I WAS JUST WONDERING IF WE HAD SLIGHTLY CLOSED THE GAP BETWEEN OUR TRUE ABILITIES, SHIJOU-SAN...
THANKS... BUT I THINK IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU, SHIJOU.
....?
THE DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH QUALITIES YOU'VE ALL KEPT HIDDEN... YOU'RE THE REASON THE GIRLS COULD BLOOM IN THE SUNLIGHT OR SHADOW, YUUTAROU.

IF YOU WEREN'T THERE, I DON'T THINK WE WOULD HAVE GROWN AS MUCH AS WE DID!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE ALWAYS SOMEWHERE HIGHER THAN US, SHIJOU-SAN. WE LOOKED UP TO YOU AND KEPT WORKING HARD.
.....

IT'S SO HARD THAT IT CAN ONLY BE POLISHED WITH ANOTHER DIAMOND.
...DIAMONDS ARE CALLED THE KING OF PRECIOUS STONES...

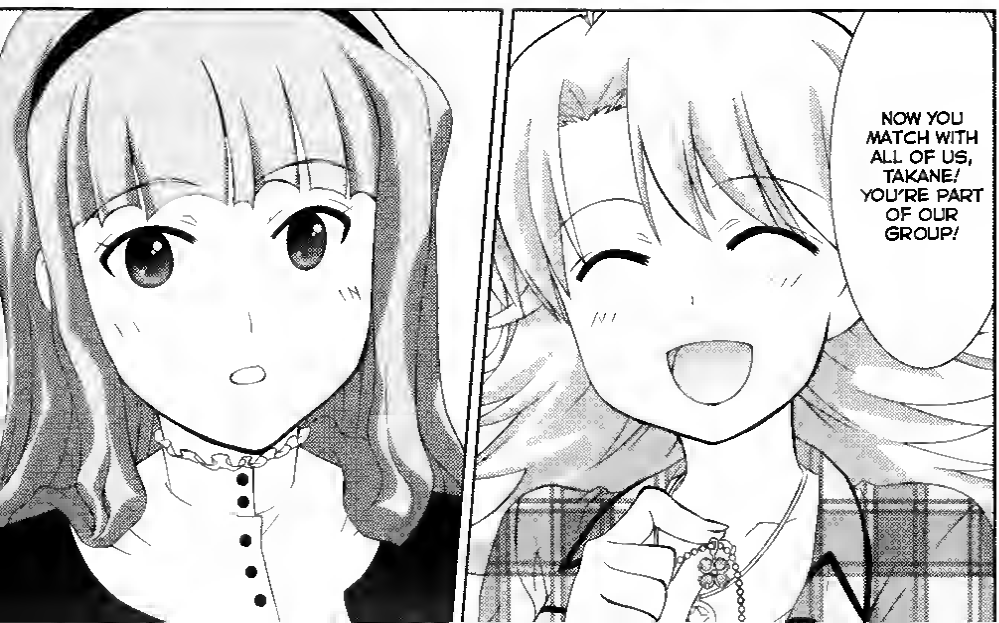
SO, DON'T GIVE UP HERE... I WANT YOU TO FIND THAT ANSWER.
I DO HATE THE WAY PRESIDENT KUROI DOES THINGS, BUT I LIKE YOUR "KING" WAY OF THINKING, SHIJOU.
THEN... WHAT "KING" AM I AIMING FOR?
NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL A SHINE IT HOLDS... WITHOUT ANOTHER DIAMOND, IT WILL NEVER REACH ITS FULL RADIANCE.

WE'LL HELP OUT, IF YOU NEED US.

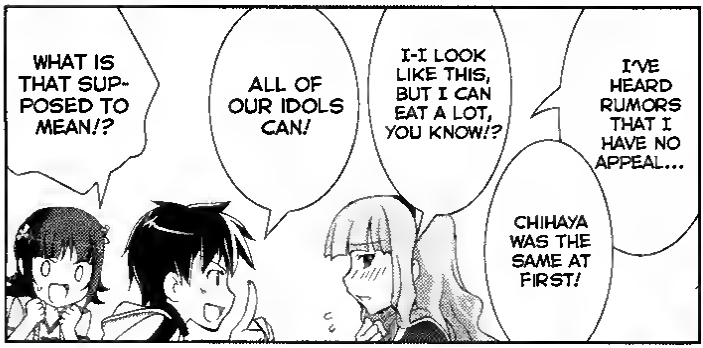
B-BUT...
YUUTAROU, HURRY UP AND GIVE TAKANE THAT THING!
YEAH, YOU BROUGHT IT RIGHT?
W-WELL... IT'S A SYMBOL OF APPRECIA-TION...
W-WHAT IS THIS...?
AH, JEEZ, DON'T TELL HER SO SOON!

OPEN IT UP!
IS THAT REALLY OKAY?
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE!
THIS IS... HOW BEAU-TIFUL...
I-IT'S CALLED A GARNET... IT'S YOUR BIRTHSTONE, SHIJOU.
MIKI'S IS AN LOPAZ.
MINE'S A NEPAL.
UM... DON'T YOU MEAN TOPAZ AND OPAL?

YUUTAROU MADE BIRTH-STONE ACCESSORIES FOR EVERY-ONE!
W-WELL, I GOT SOME MONEY AS PRIZE FROM THAT QUIZ...
YOU POLISHED THEM ONE BY ONE FOR US, RIGHT?


NOW YOU MATCH WITH ALL OF US, TAKANE! YOU'RE PART OF OUR GROUP!

T-THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
I WANTED TO CHEER YOU ON TOO, SHIJOU!
YOU MAY BE FROM DIFFERENT PRODUCTIONS, BUT YOU'RE ALSO A FELLOW IDOL, SO...
WHY DID YOU PREPARE ONE FOR MYSELF ALSO...?


WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?
ALL OF OUR IDOLS CAN!
I-I LOOK LIKE THIS, BUT I CAN EAT A LOT, YOU KNOW!?
I'VE HEARD RUMORS THAT I HAVE NO APPEAL...
CHIHAYA WAS THE SAME AT FIRST!

I DO TOO!
BUT I'VE JUST CAUSED TROUBLE FOR MANY PEOPLE...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING! I WANT YOU TO COME, SHIJOU!

WELCOME TO 765 PRO!
...ALL RIGHT.
I MAY BE INCOMPETANT, BUT I'LL ACCEPT THE CHANCE TO WALK ALONGSIDE YOU...
AME AS ALWAYS AREN'T YOU, KUROI... HOW MANY BIG DREAMING GIRLS DO YOU PLAN ON MAKING CRY?
WHY YOU... TAKAGI!
OUI?

ENOUGH'S ENOUGH AFTER THIS, DON'T YOU THINK? YOUR IDEALS SHOULD BE KEPT TO YOURSELF.
HMPH... AN IDOL IS AN IMAGE. THEY MUST BE HUMAN, YET BE AN EX-ISTANCE GREATER THAN A HUMAN.
FROM HERE ON, I WILL ONLY PRODUCE TRUE IDOLS OF THAT SORT!
HOW ABOUT YOURSELF, HOW LONG WILL YOU CONTINUE YOUR TIGHTROPE WALKING-LIKE PHILANTHROPIC WORK? YOU JUST LEARNED THE LIMITS OF YOUR OWN STAMINA RE-CENTLY ALSO!
STILL SPOUTING THAT RUB-BISH...
HOW UNFORTU-NATE. THEY'LL BE KICKED AROUND BY THE TRUE IDOLS I'LL DISCOVER!
RIGHT NOW, I HAVE THE IDOLS OF TOMORROW, GIRLS WITH DREAMS.
HEHE... I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN. AS LONG AS I, ALONG WITH THE IDOLS I'M PROUD OF...

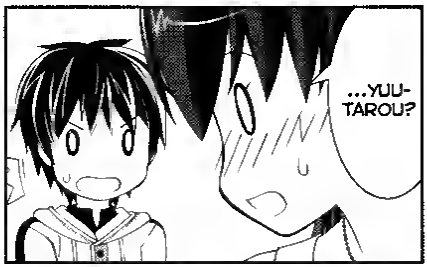
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN DO IT, THEN BRING IT ON!
AND THE EXTENT OF MY GRANDSON'S PRODUCING ARE HERE.
HMPH... SO THAT'S HOW IT WILL BE.
I AGREE...
HEY... T-THIS KIND OF CLOTHING DOESN'T SUIT ME AFTER ALL...

FUFU, BUT IT SORTA HAPPENS NATURALLY...
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A "FRESH" KIND OF IMAGE, SO TRY NOT TO FEEL SHY.
HEHE, I FEEL LIKE, "I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS."
KYAA... !?
110
ニャ!

T-THAT'S PROBLEMATIC!
EEEEH!?
THAT WAS A GOOD ONE!

I DIDN'T SEE! I DIDN'T SEE A THING!

Y-YEAH! YOU DEFINITELY CAN'T USE THAT ONE...


...YUUTAROU?

I DIDN'T! I DIDN'T!

AHAHA!!
I-I'M TELLING THE TRUTH!
UGAAA! WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT!!

WITH THIS I CAN FEEL EVERYONE WHEREVER THEY ARE.
EXCEPT NII-CHAN ISN'T ALLOWED IN HERE.
I'M SURE YOU ALL CAN DO IT. YOU'RE ALL MAKING THE BEST OF YOUR CHARACTERISTICS!
MIKI FEELS LIKE SHE'S FULL OF ENERGY!

LET'S DO IT ALL AT ONCE, EVERYONE!
HIGH-TOUCH!

WE'LL START THE SHOW NOW!
THANKS FOR WAITING

YEAH... WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT FILMING A MOVIE WOULD'VE BROUGHT US TO CANADA.
BEING HERE, IT FEELS AS IF THE STARS ARE MUCH CLOSER.
NOT JUST THE STARS, THE MOON ALSO... IT FEELS LIKE I COULD REACH IT IF I TRIED TO GRAB IT...
MAMI AND THE OTHERS REALLY WANTED TO COME TOO!
WELL, I'VE BEEN HERE COUNT-LESS TIMES!
D-DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!
E-EEH!?
A UFO JUST PASSED BY!?
AH

EH!? OHIME-CHIN, YOU WANT TO CATCH IT!?
GOODNESS, HOW MYSTERI-OUS...! BUT IF WE WERE TO GET OUR HANDS ON IT, WE MAY BE ABLE TO GO TO THE MOON...!
B-BUT LOOK, OVER THERE!
HAAH... I WON'T FALL FOR SOME-THING LIKE A UFO.
HEY, YUKIHO, WHAT'RE YOU...!?
'KAY!
LET'S HURRY, AMI!
LET'S GO TOO.

H-HEEEY!?
SHIJOU-SAN REALLY HELPED EVERYONE OPEN UP...
THAT MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY!
...JUST BETWEEN THE TWO OF US

THEN WILL THE DAY I GET A REAL ONE COME PERHAPS?

HARUKA, ABOUT YOUR BIRTHSTONE CRYSTAL. THE TRUTH IS THAT YOUR BIRTHSTONE IS ACTUALLY A DIAMOND.
EH? IS THAT SO?

BUT DIAMONDS ARE REALLY EXPENSIVE, YOU KNOW...

EH?

AHAHAH...
AH, WELL, YEAH, OF COURSE!!
EH? ...AH, I- I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT...!

I'M OFF TO THE STAGE!
HA RU KA
HARUKA-CHAN!
OKAY... BREAK A LEG!
YEAH... OUR CHALLENGE DOESN'T END HERE.
FROM HERE ON EVERYONE WILL CONTINUE FORWARD, HANDS TOGETHER, THROUGH THICK AND THIN...
THEN WE'LL ALL JUMP FORTH

TOWARDS
OUR BRAND
NEW STAGE!

THE DOLLMASTER
BRE